

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 11, 2023 <u>PIO@calottery.com</u> @calotterypress

## More Than \$36 Million Raised for Public Schools as Powerball® Jackpot Grows to \$522 Million for Tonight

**SACRAMENTO** – With no big winner this past weekend, the *Powerball* jackpot is now at an estimated **\$522 million for tonight's draw**.

Thanks to the ever-increasing top prize, the California Lottery has been able to **raise more than \$36 million for public education** just from this game since the jackpot started growing in late July. Generating additional funds for public schools is the sole mission of the California Lottery.

Tonight, players will get another chance at this year's third-largest *Powerball* jackpot. Should someone hit it and decide to take the lump-sum payout, the estimated cash value is \$252.4 million. Though there was no jackpot winner, Saturday night's draw resulted in more than a million winning tickets across the country, including more than 145,000 <u>at various prize levels</u> here in California.

The last time this jackpot was hit was July 19 right here in California, when a lucky <u>ticket sold in</u> <u>Downtown Los Angeles</u> matched all six numbers to win \$1.08 billion. Since then, there have been 22 consecutive drawings without a top-prize winner.

Powerball tickets are \$2 per play; approximately 80 cents from every ticket sold in California <u>helps</u> <u>public education</u>. Tonight's draw happens at 7:59pm Pacific Time.

###

The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled more than \$2.07 billion for fiscal year 2021-22, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated more than \$8.85 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.